

Message Text

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ORIGIN DOTE-00

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 L-03 EB-11 CIAE-00 COME-00

INR-11 LAB-06 NSAE-00 RSC-01 SIL-01 AGR-20 SSO-00

SP-03 AID-20 NSC-07 CIEP-03 TRSE-00 SS-20 STR-08

OMB-01 CEA-02 DODE-00 FMC-04 CG-00 COA-02 DLOS-07

SWF-02 INRE-00 PRS-01 SAM-01 /160 R

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DRAFTED BY: DOT/TPI-40:RWBRONEZ

APPROVED BY: EUR/CAN:EMBROWN

DOT/UNDER SECRETARY JW BARNUM

EUR:RZSMITH(SUBS)

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O 091802Z AUG 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS STATE 174085

E.O. 11652 N/A

TAGS: CA EWWT

SUBJECT: GREAT LAKES PILOTAGE

EMBASSY REQUESTED DELIVER FOLLOWING COMMUNICATION ASAP FROM
SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION BRINEGAR TO TRANSPORT MINISTER MARCHAND
OR , IN HIS ABSENCE, ACTING MINISTER;
QUOTE

HONORABLE JEAN MARCHAND
MINISTER OF TRANSPORT
OTTAWA, CNADA

DEAR MR. MINISTER:

I HAVE JUST COMPLETED A REVIEW OF THE RAPIDLY DETERIORATING
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PILOTAGE SITUATION ON THE GREAT LAKES. AS YOU KNOW, THE UNITED

STATES PILOTS DIFFER FROM THEIR CANADIAN COUNTERPARTS IN THAT THEY DEPEND DIRECTLY UPON THE PILOTAGE RATES AND THE VOLUME OF TRAFFIC FOR THEIR OWN INCOMES AND FOR VARIOUS ITEMS OF OVERHEAD AND OPERATIONAL EXPENSE. OUR PILOTS HAVE NOT RECEIVED A RATE INCREASE SINCE 1970. RISING PRICE LEVELS, COUPLED WITH LOWER TRAFFIC VOLUME, ARE CREATING A SITUATION OF FINANCIAL DISTRESS TO OUR PILOTS WHICH REQUIRES RELIEF IN THE EFFECTIVE FLOW OF COMMERCE ON THE LAKES IS TO TO MAINTAINED.

I CONSIDER IT ESSENTIAL TO PUT INTO FORCE AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE THE INCREASED PILOTAGE RATES WHICH WERE AGREED BETWEEN MY DEPARTMENT AND YOUR MINISTRY LAST MAY. I AM AWARE THAT CANADIAN AUTHORITIES HAVE BEEN RELUCTANT TO PROMULGATE THE NEW RATES PENDING SETTLEMENT OF CERTAIN QUESTIONS IN THE AREA OF WORKING ASSIGNMENTS. IN THE PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES, I AM NOT IN A POSITON TO MAKE THE ADJUSTMENTS IN THOSE ASSIGNMENTS WHICH THE CANADIAN SIDE HAS PROPOSED. IT SEEMS TO ME, HOWEVER, THAT THE COSTS OF THE IMPASSES---SERIOUS DISRUPTION OF US GREAT LAKES TRADE VERSUS A SLIGHT INCREASE IN CANADIAN PILOT PRESENCE IN DISTRICT 2----ARE GROSSLY DISPROPORTIONATE AS BETWEEN THE TWO SIDES.

I VERY MUCH HOPE THAT YOU CAN AGREE TO JOIN ME IN PUBLISHING THE NEW RATES, BECAUSE I BELIEVE THAT THE JOINT FEATURES OF THE GREAT LAKES PILOTAGE SYSTEM ARE IMPORTANT. I WOULD BE VERY GRATEFUL TO HAVE YOUR CONCURRENCE IN THAT STEP BY AUGUST 16TH NEXT. BY THAT TIME, I EXPECT THAT I WILL HAVE NO OTHER CHOICE EXCEPT TO PUBLISH INDEPENDENTLY THE AGREED NEW RATES IN SO FAR AS US PILOTS ARE AFFECTED. WE WILL, OF COURSE, BE PREPARED TO CONTINUE DISCUSSION IN AN EFFORT TO RESOLVE OTHER ASPECTS OF THE PILOTAGE PROBLEM.

CLAUDE S. BRINEGAR
SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION
UNQUOTE
HENRY A. KISSINGER

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TAGS: EWWT, CA
To: OTTAWA
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005